Chief Executive Officer, M/s GE India, Mr. Scott R. Bayman, conveyed that in their opinion, restarting Phase-I (740 MW) of the Dabhol Power Project within 2 to 3 months, is not possible.Their assessment was based on the fact that the power plant (Phase-I) has been shut down after the Maharashtra State Electricity Board stopped (MSEB) taking power from 29.5.2001 onwards, and that there was a possibility of rust, corrosion and other damage to the numerous operating systems, GE conveyed that according to their estimates, restart of Phase-I would take 9-15 months from the time the technical team begins its assessment of damage. It was mentioned by GE that six of the turbines of the Dabhol plant are GE designed 9 Fas and that no other company possess either the proprietary technology or the proprietary designs for spare parts. GE conveyed that along with the other equity holder in the Dabhol power project, M/s Bechtel, they would like to be part of the solutions for the power plant.

Subsequently, the Company has clarified their position with reference to the captioned news-item stating that they have not questioned the experience and ability of the NationalThermal Power Corporation (NTPC) to restart the Project. It was clarified that the point made in their letter dated 13th September, 2002 was that GE, as equipment supplier, would be required to support whichever company is selected to restart and operate the Dabhol Power Plant.

Meanwhile, as a first step, it has been agreed that an interim revival package for restarting Phase-I be worked out by the concerned agencies. NTPC has agreed to act as Operation & Maintenance contractor for running Phase-I. The agencies concerned *i.e.* MSEB, General Electric, Bechtel, Industrial Development Bank of India, NTPC and the Central Electricity Authority as the representatives of Ministry of Power, have conducted inspection of the plant and are presently engaged in discussions for finalizing the legal, commercial and technical issues for restart of Phase-I. Government of Maharashtra has conveyed that MSEB would recommence off-take of entire power from the existing Phase-I power station, with certain conditions.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Village electrification in Rajasthan

192. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages per district proposed to be electrified during the current year in the State of Rajasthan;

(b) the details of the budget allocated and the amount of money spent on the same;

(c) the number of villages per district still be electrified;

(d) whether Government have also allocated special budget for the maintenance of power stations, sub-stations, transformers, etc. for Rajasthan; and

(e) if so, the amount allocated for maintenance project and the amount spent till now?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (c) Rajasthan Vidyut Nigam Ltd. have fixed a target of electrification of 500 villages in Rajasthan, out of which 42 villages are reported to have been electrified upto September, 2002.The district-wise details are given in the Statement (Seebelow).

(b)The Planning Commission have under Pradhan Mantri Gramodaya Yojana (PMGY) made an allocation of Rs. 1061.00 lakhs for rural electrification work as Additional Central Assistance for the year 2002-03 and the first instalment *i.e.* 50% amount has been released. In addition Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources have fixed a programme of 6000 solar home system and 100 street light for Rajasthan for which sum of Rs. 353 lakhs has been allocated for Rajasthan Renewable Energy Corporation, out of which Rs. 182.50 lakhs has already been released.

(d) and (e)There is no such special budget for maintenance of power stations, sub-stations, transformers, etc.

Statement

District-wise details of village electrification during the year 2002-03

SI. No.	Name of Discom/Distt.	Target for the year 2002-03	Village electrified upto Sept.	Villages yet to be electrified
1	2	3	4	5
(A) Ajmer Discom				
1.	Ajmer	0	0	0
2.	Banswara	36	10	26
3.	Bhilwara	0	0	0
4:	**Chlttor**	13	0	13

1 2	3	4	5
5. Doongarpur	0	0	0
6. Jhunjhunu	0	0	0
7. Nagaur (Ex. Ladnu)	0	0	0
8. Rajsamand	0	0	0
9. Sikar	0	0	0
10. Udaipur	51	2	49
TOTAL **(A)**	**100**	12	88
(B) Jaipur Discom			
1. Alwar	0	0	0
2. Baran	10	0	**10**
3. Bharatpur	6	3	3
4. Bundi	0	0	0
5. Dausa	0	0	0
6. Dholpur	16	1	15
7. Jaipur	0	0	0
8. Jhalawar	41	1	40
9. Karoli	14	0	14
10. Kota	11	0	11
11. S. Madhopur	2	0	2
12. Tonk*	0	0	0
TOTAL(B)	**100**	5	95
(C) Jodhpur Discom			
1. Barmer	51	8	43
2. Bikaner	2	0	2
3. Churu	0	2	0
4. Hanumangarh	23	2	21
5. Jaisalmer	52	6	46
6. Jalore	12	1	11
7. Jodhpur	0	0	0
8. Nagaur (RS. Ladnu)	0	0	0
9. Pali	0	0	0
10. S. Ganganagar	160	6	**154**
11. Sirohi	0	0	0
TOTAL (C)	300	25	275
GRAND TOTAL	500	42	458

Note:—*Tonk electrified 100% excluding villages falling under submergence.